



Face Paint, Camouflage Compact & Face Paint, Camouflage Sticks

Overview:

Currently fielded camouflage paint is designed to provide visible and near-infrared camouflage protection, and also to meet soldier acceptability and safety criteria. Requirements include ease of application and removal, comfort in wearing, removable with soap and water, perspiration resistance and compatible to clothing and other equipment. Camouflage paint, nearly odorless, will not reduce the natural sensing capabilities of the soldier and will not cause any health hazards such as skin irritation or toxicity if ingested. Logistic concerns include use and storage in all climatic conditions without degradation, item expendability and stowage in pockets of a Battle Dress Uniform. Additional performance enhancements that are being addressed include thermal infrared protection and insect repellency to meet stated user needs.

Camouflage paint is classified as a medical item due to the application to the skin. Responsibility for the item belongs to the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command at Fort Detrick, Maryland. A Joint Working Group (JWG) among the Natick Soldier Center, Program Manager - Soldier Equipment, and the U.S. Army Medical Community was formed in March 1998. Natick's expertise in camouflage for the soldier and individual equipment has long reinforced the relationship as the material developer of camouflage face paint items.

Description:

Current camouflage face paint in compact form provides passive camouflage protection in the visible and near-infrared regions of the electromagnetic spectrum. The camouflage paint is used on all exposed skin (i.e. face, neck and hands) to tone down highlights and skin shine minimizing contrast to various backgrounds. The compact is an olive green cosmetic-like container with an acrylic mirror to assist in self application. The four compartments contain a different color of pigmented formulations of green, loam, sand and white that will provide protection against visible and near infrared detection. The compact is suitable for all environmental conditions from arctic to desert. Current camouflage face paint in stick form provides protection only in the visible region of the electromagnetic spectrum. There are three different color combinations of sticks, one for each terrain. The stick consists of a two-cylinder dispenser of grease paint material, each of different colors, joined end-to-end forming one continuous stick. They are furnished in green and loam (Woodland), green and sand (Desert), and white and loam (Arctic). One applies the face paint by pushing the stick through the dispenser from the opposite end.



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